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WOOL Situation

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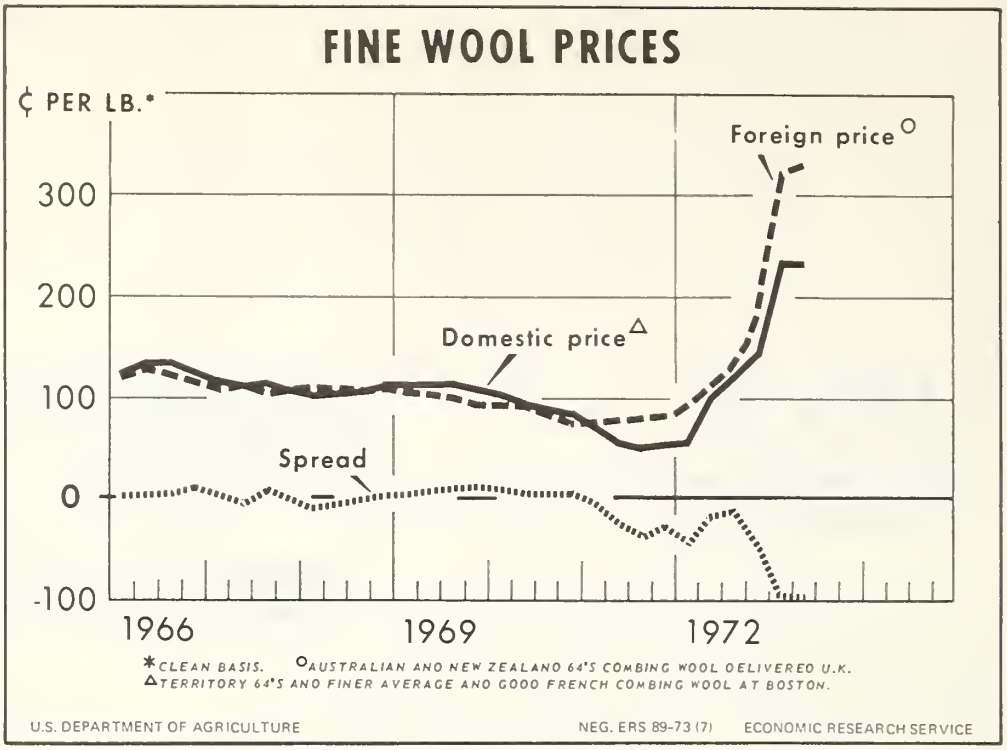

Figure 1

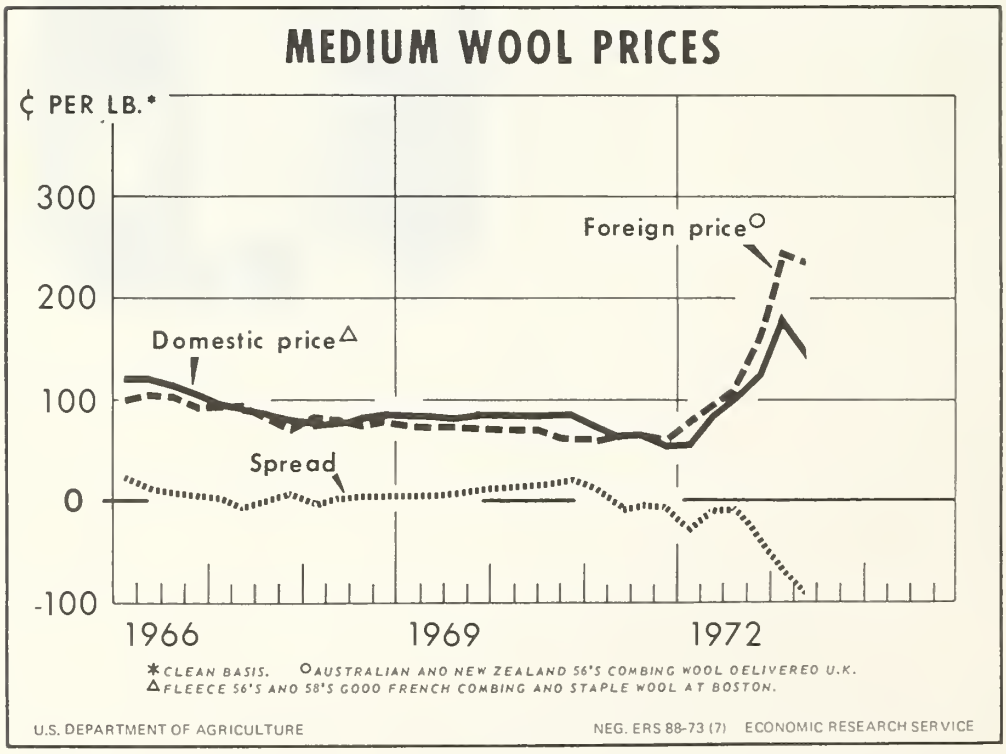

Figure 2

THE WOOL SITUATION

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Approved By
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SUMMARY

The current wool situation is highlighted by reduced supplies, high prices, and smaller mill use and exports. Reduced supplies this year reflect declines in both raw apparel stocks and wool production. U.S. shorn wool production during 1973 is expected to drop 9 percent to 144 million pounds, grease basis, marking the thirteenth consecutive year of decline. The estimated number of sheep shorn this year, at 17.4 million, is down 7 percent and the average weight per fleece is down slightly.

Average U.S. farm prices for shorn wool during 1973 will more than double last year's 35 cents a pound, grease basis, and exceed the Wool Act incentive price of 72 cents. Although prices have retreated somewhat from the near-record March peak of nearly a dollar per pound, most of 1973 clip was sold at the earlier higher prices. U.S. and foreign prices advanced sharply during 1972 and early 1973 as world consumption expanded and supplies tightened. Despite recent declines around the world, the spread of prices of foreign wools above domestic wools has continued to widen.

U.S. mill use of raw apparel wool during 1973 may total considerably below the 142 million pounds, scoured basis, of last year. However, despite high prices, foreign demand for domestically produced wool tops remains relatively strong as world supplies are tight. Also, relatively low mill stocks of broadwoven fabric coupled with a large number of unfilled orders augur well for production of wool fabric in coming months. These factors will partially offset the dampening impact of higher prices.

U.S. carpet wool consumption this year will total sharply below 1972's 76 million pounds, scoured basis. High prices and limited world supplies are restricting use and allowing man-made fibers to make further inroads into the expanding carpet market, despite tight man-made fiber supplies and firm prices.

U.S. exports of raw wool during 1973 will fall substantially below the record 11 million pounds, clean content, of 1972. Although foreign prices will remain high relative to domestic prices, the bullish effect this would be expected to have on U.S. shipments is partly offset by our smaller production of raw apparel wool.

Since the difference between available domestic apparel wool supplies and anticipated mill use this year is larger than last year, *import requirements* will probably exceed the 25 million pounds, clean content, imported in 1972. However, duty-free raw carpet wool imports will decline sharply, with prospects for much less mill use of carpet wool.

Prices of raw wool in world markets increased sharply during 1972 and early 1973 as production was insufficient to satisfy demand, causing stocks to plummet. The upward price spiral finally broke in March with the withdrawal of Japanese traders who had been a major factor in the market. The quick market entry and exit of East European and Soviet Union buyers also contributed to the price reversal as did a deterioration in the quality of offerings. However, prices have again strengthened in recent months, although remaining below average March levels.

Many uncertainties now hang over world wool markets. One is international monetary conditions. Another is high meat prices, causing producers' dilemma of whether to raise sheep for meat or wool, or possibly to switch to cattle. But world production does seem likely to stabilize or possibly increase marginally in 1973/74. Thus, supplies will remain relatively tight, and exert continuing pressure on prices through 1973 and probably 1974. However, prospects for reduced mill use this year will tend to relieve a little of the pressure.

The 1973 *U.S. mohair situation* is highlighted by a continuing sharp uptrend in farm prices as a result of tight supplies. Last year's record exports depleted stocks, leaving 1973 supplies largely dependent on new production. The clip reported will total between 1972's small output of about 10½ million pounds, grease basis, and 12½ million. This production would only be equivalent to about half last year's exports of 19 million pounds, clean content. Limited supplies and high prices also will hamper domestic mill use this year. U.S. producer prices will average sharply above 1972's 81.4 cents per pound, which slightly exceeded the Government support price.

THE U.S. WOOL SITUATION

Shorn Wool Production Decline Continues

U.S. shorn wool production during 1973 is expected to total 144 million pounds, grease basis, down from 158 million in 1972. This 9 percent drop marks the thirteenth consecutive year that wool production has declined. The estimated 17.4 million sheep already shorn and to be shorn this year are down 7 percent and the average weight per fleece is down slightly.

Of the 25 leading States, only New Mexico reports prospects for slightly larger wool production. Anticipated output is down slightly over a tenth in both Texas, the largest wool producing State, and Wyoming, the second largest. (See table 1.)

Strong Domestic Prices

Farm prices of shorn wool, which nearly doubled in 1972 from depressed levels of the preceding year, are likely to at least double again in 1973. Prices boomed during the first 3 months of the year, peaking at 97.2 cents per pound in March. Prices slipped somewhat through the second quarter, but still exceeded levels of recent years by a wide margin. (See table 2.) Third quarter prices are rising but most of the clip is already sold.

Prospects are for 1973 wool prices to continue strong, although probably below the March peak. U.S. supplies will remain tight throughout 1973 because of reduced stocks and smaller production. So prices will average well above 1972's 35 cents and will most likely exceed the 72 cent incentive payment offered by the Wool Act.

Domestic prices in the first quarter probably reflected only small sales of wool. Weather restrains shearing, usually limiting deliveries in the first quarter to no more than 15 percent of the annual clip. However, around two-thirds of production reportedly was contracted for delivery near the more important spring shearing dates at prices ranging up to about $1.50, grease basis, for bulk quantities of fine wool.

The slippage in wool prices in the second quarter indicated that while demand for wool was still strong, it was not as insatiable as first quarter activity seemed to indicate. There was a distinct lull in trading activity from late March to mid-April while the industry reassessed the market. Although activity has picked up in recent months, trading has been limited by short supplies, particularly of the better qualities.

After increasing sharply during 1972 and early 1973, prices of the finer grades of domestic wool leveled off in the second quarter of 1973, while medium prices declined. Continuing relatively higher prices for the finer wools are associated with a more normal supply-demand relationship favoring fine wools. This is in contrast to price relationships in 1970 and 1971 when demand for the finer grades lagged and prices of fine wools were low relative to medium wools.

The price spread between similar qualities of foreign and domestic wools widened further in the second quarter, continuing a trend underway since early 1971. Prices of territory fine wool, clean basis, averaged about a dollar per pound under comparable

Table 1.—U.S. shorn wool production, grease basis, selected years

State	1960	1965	1970	1971	1972	1973
	1,000 pounds	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*
Texas	51,980	41,109	30,784	30,397	29,430	26,118
Wyoming	22,839	18,945	16,573	16,512	16,062	14,232
Colorado	14,808	11,001	10,955	12,365	11,473	10,877
California	19,419	14,741	11,665	11,580	11,655	10,478
South Dakota	14,941	12,032	9,800	9,779	10,504	10,100
Utah	11,950	9,595	9,637	9,167	9,218	8,038
Montana	17,041	12,462	9,086	8,657	8,501	7,958
Idaho	11,304	7,856	7,122	7,370	6,949	6,397
New Mexico	10,368	8,669	6,523	6,635	6,134	6,410
Ohio	8,501	6,366	5,318	5,015	4,959	4,596
Iowa	10,776	8,293	5,349	5,292	5,545	4,694
Oregon	7,596	5,053	4,517	4,360	4,823	4,159
Arizona	3,204	4,068	3,559	3,772	3,692	3,450
Minnesota	6,575	5,013	3,643	3,468	3,430	2,939
North Dakota	5,625	4,079	3,075	3,020	2,930	2,818
Kansas	4,841	3,525	2,606	2,715	2,800	2,572
Nebraska	4,970	3,452	2,736	2,610	2,644	2,460
Illinois	4,787	3,678	2,232	2,060	2,071	1,877
Missouri	5,393	2,924	1,806	1,662	1,740	1,533
Michigan	3,068	2,422	1,847	1,682	1,841	1,644
Nevada	2,786	2,075	1,828	1,751	1,627	1,442
Indiana	3,360	2,330	1,818	1,659	1,657	1,640
Pennsylvania	1,679	1,322	1,110	1,051	1,007	937
Virginia	1,670	1,284	1,153	1,097	994	966
West Virginia	1,403	1,067	944	849	804	758
Other States	14,393	8,102	5,901	5,632	5,391	4,953
United States	265,277	201,463	161,587	160,157	157,881	144,046

Crop Reporting Borad, SRS.

Table 2.—Average U.S. farm prices for shorn wool, grease basis

Month	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973[1]
	Cents	*Cents*	*Cents*	*Cents*	*Cents*
January	37.4	35.6	25.3	17.7	54.4
February	38.2	35.7	24.6	19.6	74.7
March	40.4	36.5	23.3	24.2	97.2
April	42.8	37.5	22.9	29.1	91.3
May	43.5	36.6	21.2	34.5	82.1
June	42.8	37.5	21.3	39.4	80.2
July	41.4	37.1	18.7	39.2	83.8
August	39.9	34.2	17.9	38.4	
September	39.2	31.6	18.9	35.8	
October	39.6	32.5	17.0	50.9	
November	38.6	31.7	17.9	52.5	
December	38.6	28.2	16.8	49.3	
Weighted season average	41.8	35.5	19.4	35.0	

[1] Preliminary.

Crop Reporting Board, SRS.

foreign wools, and domestic medium wools trailed foreign by 89 cents. (See figures 1 and 2.) These increasing price differentials led to larger U.S. exports and lower imports of wool tops and raw wool in 1971 and 1972. However, our nearly depleted stocks and smaller production of raw apparel wool now leave us with little or no raw wool to export, and have increased our import needs.

Mill Consumption Again Trending Downward

In contrast to last year, consumption of wool by domestic woolen and worsted mills now is declining. Higher raw wool prices are to blame. During January-May 1973, raw apparel wool use dropped over a tenth from a year earlier, while consumption of carpet wool was down nearly a third. But use of other fibers, including reprocessed and re-used wool and man-made fibers, increased sharply. This boosted total fiber consumption in wool mills during January-May 1973 about 8 percent above a year earlier, and wool's market share dipped nearly 9 percentage points to 26½ percent. (See figure 3 and tables 3 and 14.)

About a fourth more man-made fibers were consumed in woolen and worsted mills during January-May 1973 in comparison with a year earlier.

The recent declines in wool use have occurred despite rising consumer income which has sparked strong consumer demand in the general economy. Higher prices of raw wool have limited consumption and precipitated further displacement of wool by man-made fibers.

Wools grading 60's and finer accounted for most of this year's decline in total mill use of raw apparel wool. Consumption of the finer wools the first 5

Table 3.—U.S. mill consumption of raw wool, scoured basis

Year	Apparel wool	Carpet wool	Total
	1,000 pounds	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*
1963	251,344	160,399	411,743
1964	233,932	122,737	356,669
1965	274,696	112,330	387,026
1966	266,587	103,587	370,174
1967	228,659	83,851	312,510
1968	238,290	91,407	329,697
1969	219,035	93,758	312,793
1970	163,652	76,609	240,261
1971	116,310	75,151	191,461
1972	142,233	76,368	218,601
Jan.-May			
1972	58,922	34,799	93,721
1973[1]	52,127	23,912	76,039

[1] Preliminary.

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 4.—Distribution of apparel wool consumption

Year	60's and finer	50's up to 60's	48's and coarser	Total
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
		Woolen system		
1968	35.8	56.2	8.0	100.0
1969	37.0	55.1	7.9	100.0
1970	35.7	54.4	9.9	100.0
1971	36.5	53.7	9.8	100.0
1972	39.6	53.2	7.2	100.0
Jan.-May				
1972	39.2	53.4	7.4	100.0
1973[1]	31.6	61.2	7.2	100.0
		Worsted system		
1968	58.0	42.0		100.0
1969	59.3	40.7		100.0
1970	46.7	53.3		100.0
1971	49.8	50.2		100.0
1972	59.4	40.6		100.0
Jan.-May				
1972	56.3	43.7		100.0
1973[1]	57.4	42.6		100.0
		Total		
1968	50.2	49.8		100.0
1969	51.2	48.8		100.0
1970	43.1	56.9		100.0
1971	45.2	54.8		100.0
1972	52.4	47.6		100.0
Jan.-May				
1972	50.0	50.0		100.0
1973[1]	47.6	52.4		100.0

[1] Preliminary.

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

months of 1973 was down 16 percent from a year earlier and their share of total apparel wool use dropped from 50 percent to 48 percent. Smaller consumption on the woolen system was mainly responsible. Mill use of coarser apparel wools declined about 7 percent during the period. (See figure 4 and table 4.)

Use of apparel wool on the woolen and worsted systems of manufacture declined 9 percent and 13 percent, respectively, during January-May 1973. Production of wool tops totaled 30 million pounds, compared with 34 million a year earlier.

U.S. mill use of raw apparel wool during 1973 may total considerably below the 142 million pounds, scoured basis, of last year. However, despite high prices, foreign demand for domestically produced wool tops remains relatively strong as world supplies are tight. And additionally, the position of wool mills with respect to stocks and unfilled orders for apparel fabrics is the most favorable in 3 years. Also, larger military purchases of wool products is aiding mill use. (See tables 16 and 17.) While these factors will partially offset the disincentive of higher prices in the current year, continuing high prices probably will hurt wool consumption in the long run by encouraging greater displacement by man-made fibers.

U.S. carpet wool consumption this year will sharply trail 1972's 76 million pounds, scoured basis. (See figure 4.) High prices and limited world supplies are restricting use, and man-made fibers will make further inroads in the expanding market for carpets. Shipments of all kinds of carpets and rugs, which totaled a record 898 million square yards in 1972, will likely increase further this year, reflecting more widespread use in homes, businesses, and institutional facilities. This is evidenced by a 14 percent gain in mill shipments during January-March 1973 from a year earlier. (See table 5.)

First Quarter Broadwoven Production Up

Production of broadwoven wool fabric during 1972 totaled 102 million linear yards, a tenth less than in 1971. Output lagged year-earlier levels the first 3 quarters, but jumped a fourth above a year earlier in the last quarter, spurred by greater demand for wool blankets and other non-apparel broadwoven fabric.

Production continued strong in the first quarter of 1973. The 13 percent jump from a year earlier reflected larger mill use during the latter half of 1972. Apparel fabrics, especially women's apparel where woolen constructions dominate, accounted for most of the gain. However, tight supplies and high prices may well cause production of broadwoven wool fabric in 1973 to about equal the 1972 level despite the encouraging first quarter. (See table 18.)

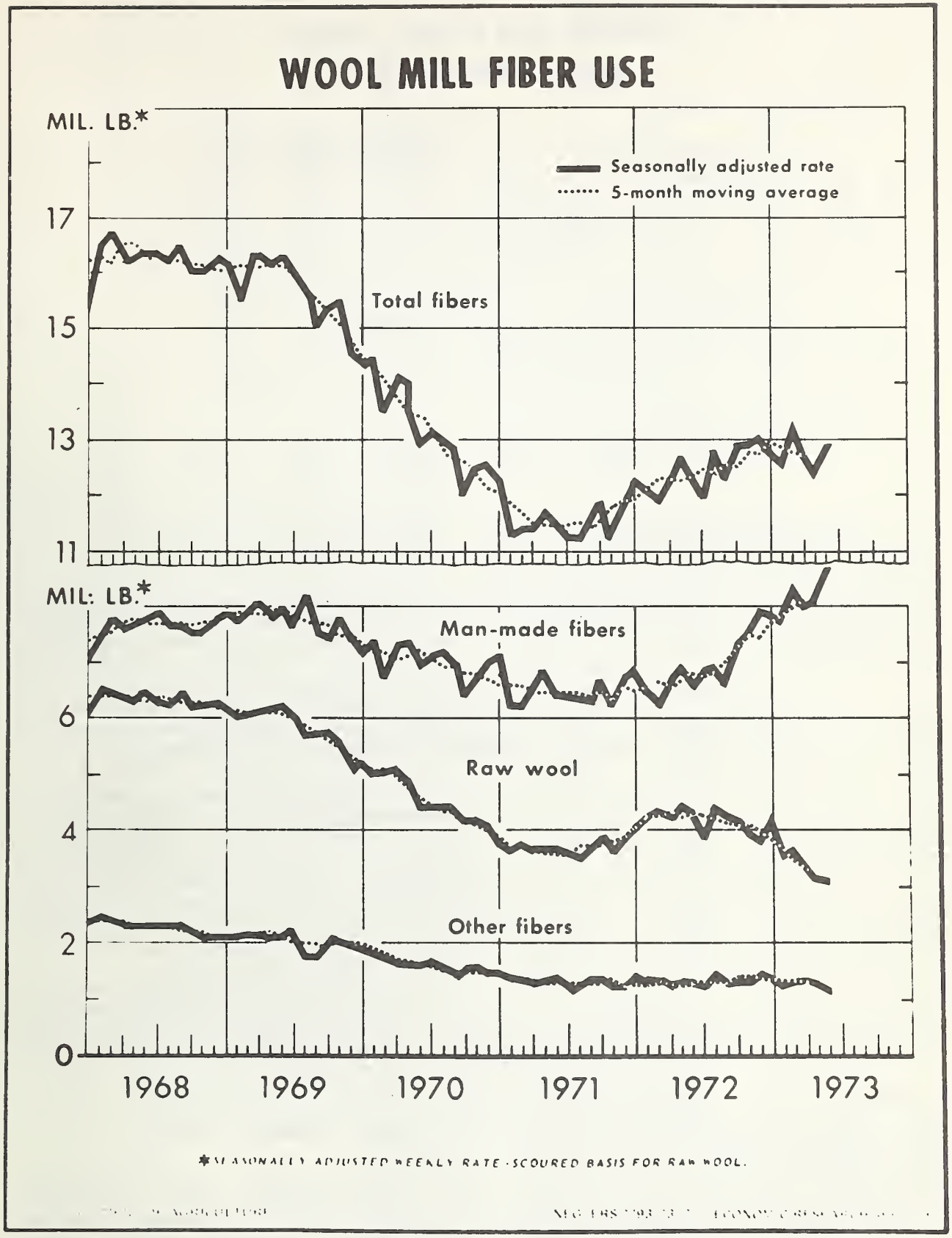
WOOL MILL FIBER USE
MIL. LB.*
Seasonally adjusted rate
5-month moving average
17
15
13
11
Total fibers
MIL: LB.*
Man-made fibers
6
Raw wool
4
Other fibers
2
0
1968
1969
1970
1971
1972
1973
*SEASONALLY ADJUSTED WEEKLY RATE - SCOURED BASIS FOR RAW WOOL.

Figure 3

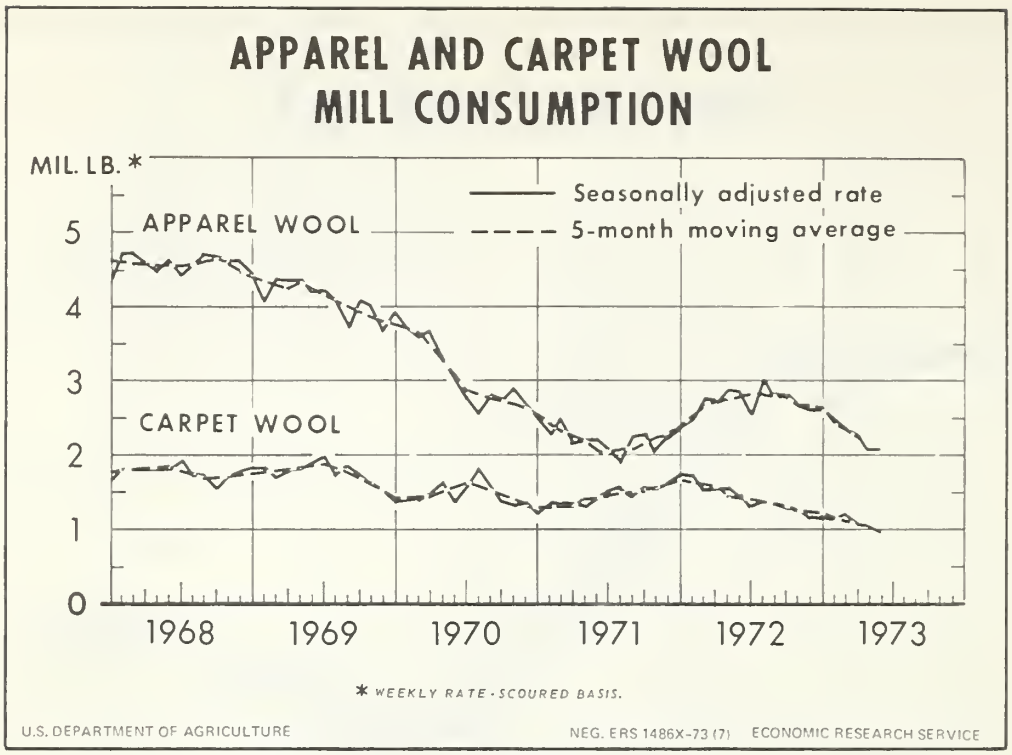

Figure 4

Table 5.—U.S. mill shipments of rugs and carpets

Year and quarter	Total	Change from a year earlier
	Million square yards	*Percent*
1969	642.6	+9.6
1970	680.5	+5.9
1971	755.2	+11.0
1972	898.1	+18.9
1971		
1st	171.2	+6.4
2nd	188.5	+10.9
3rd	190.2	+11.4
4th	205.3	+14.8
1972		
1st	207.7	+21.3
2nd	229.5	+21.8
3rd	225.9	+18.8
4th	235.0	+14.5
1973		
1st	237.3	+14.3

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Raw Wool Trade

This year's smaller domestic raw wool supplies and higher prices have again virtually terminated exports of U.S. wool. After rising to a record 11 million pounds, clean content, in 1972, shipments have tailed off in recent months to less than a fifth of the January-June 1972 level. Foreign prices remain high relative to domestic prices, but the bullish effect this would be expected to have on U.S. exports is partly offset domestically by our smaller production of raw apparel wool. Shipments to the United Kingdom, our largest customer, in the first half vividly illustrate the current situation. In 1973, January-June shipments totaled only about 4 percent of the year-earlier level (See table 19.)

As the difference between available domestic apparel wool supplies and anticipated mill use this year is larger than last year, import requirements will probably exceed the 25 million pounds, clean content, imported in 1972. Behavior in the first 6 months of 1973 reflected these needs—dutiable imports totaled about 14 million pounds, compared with 13 million in 1972. As during the last 2 years, 60's and finer grades accounted for the majority of imports. (See tables 6 and 7.)

Raw carpet wool imports will decline sharply this year in view of less mill consumption. Imports of these duty-free wools totaled only 25 million pounds, clean content, during January-June, 13½ million less than a year earlier.

Trade Balance Shifting for Wool Textiles

The pattern of U.S. foreign trade in semiprocessed and manufactured wool textiles has changed substantially since 1971. In marked contrast to rapidly declining imports and stable but smaller

Table 6.—U.S. imports of dutiable and duty-free raw wool for consumption, clean content

Year	Dutiable	Duty-free	Total
	1,000 pounds	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*
1963	109,196	167,962	277,158
1964	98,415	113,932	212,347
1965	162,637	108,943	271,580
1966	162,537	114,625	277,162
1967	109,071	78,205	187,276
1968	129,717	119,599	249,316
1969	93,523	95,664	189,187
1970	79,810	73,325	153,134
1971	42,682	83,893	126,575
1972[1]	24,790	71,849	96,639
Jan.-June[1]			
1972	12,873	38,720	51,593
1973	14,065	25,219	39,283

[1] Preliminary.

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 7.—Quality composition of dutiable and duty-free imports

Grade	1971	1972[1]	Jan.-June[1]	
			1972	1973
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
		Dutiable		
60's and finer	68.7	83.9	83.1	78.9
50's up to 60's	19.4	6.6	6.4	7.8
44's up to 50's	3.9	3.9	4.1	3.0
40's and coarser	8.0	5.6	6.4	10.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
		Duty-free		
46's	2.0	5.1	5.0	2.2
44's	27.0	23.6	24.2	14.4
40's and coarser	63.6	60.3	61.5	70.1
Donskoi, Smyrna, etc.	7.4	11.0	9.3	13.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

[1] Preliminary.

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

exports from 1968 to 1971, imports have now stabilized and exports are up sharply. (See figure 5.) This recent shift mainly reflects the price advantage of raw wool in the United States relative to prices elsewhere. And this has been complemented by devaluation of the dollar which makes domestic mills more competitive in many markets.

After dropping to 90 million pounds in 1971, about three-fifths the record 1968 level, imports of wool textiles increased 6 percent last year. Imports during the first half of 1973 indicate continued stability in U.S. demand for foreign wool textiles as slightly smaller imports of carpets and rugs about offset larger apparel shipments.

Wool tops, which accounted for virtually all the

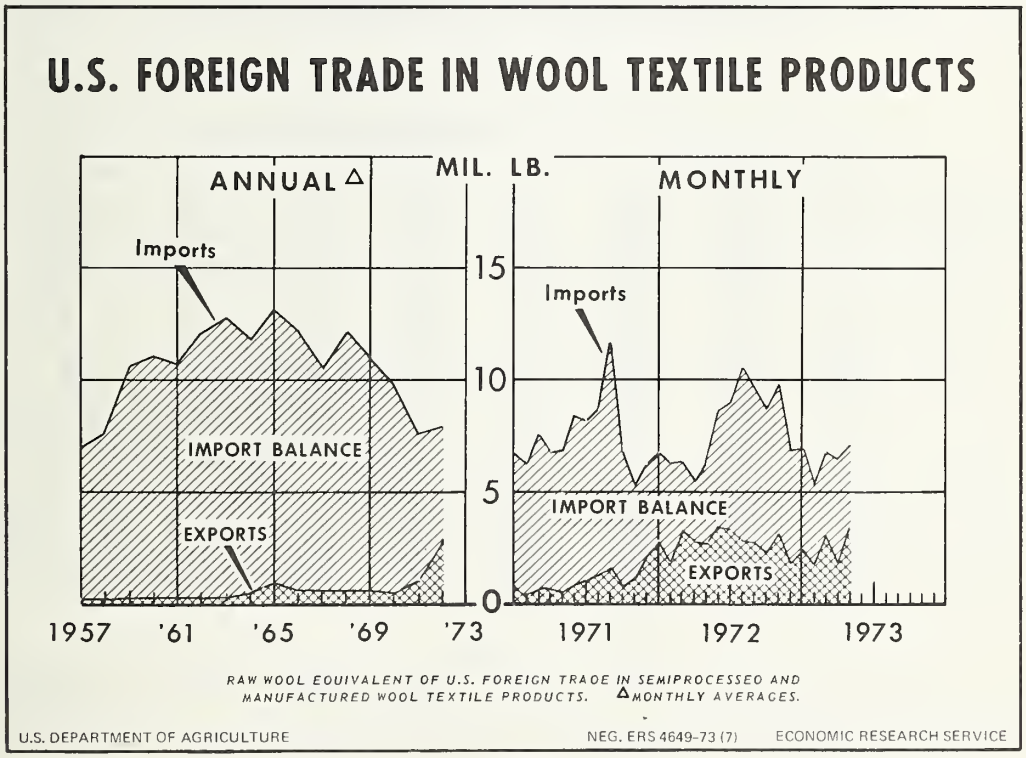

Figure 5

increase in exports of wool manufactures in 1971 and 1972, again head the list in 1973. Shipments to Japan and West Germany comprise well over half of exports. Although running slightly below the year-earlier level during the first 6 months of this year, exports of all semiprocessed and manufactured wool textiles may about match 1972's record 33 million pounds before the year is out. (See tables 20 and 21.)

THE WORLD WOOL SITUATION

Markets Buffeted by Uncertainties

World wool markets have been subjected to unusual supply-demand relationships over the past year, characterized by rapidly rising prices, strong world demand, tight supplies, and uncertainties about the status of the market. Uncertainties over the adequacy of supplies increased with the continuing deterioration in production prospects which was aided and abetted by high meat prices and producers' dilemma of whether to raise sheep for meat or wool, or switch more to cattle. Additionally, uncertainties over international monetary conditions made investment in commodities, including wool, quite attractive.

Prices Bullish

Prices of raw wool in world markets increased sharply during 1972 and early 1973 as supplies were insufficient to satisfy demand. The upward price spiral finally broke in March with the withdrawal of Japanese traders who had been a major factor in the market. The abrupt market entry and exit of East European and Soviet Union buyers also contributed to the price reversal as did increased trading in lower quality wools as supplies of good qualities tightened. However, prices have again strengthened in recent months, although remaining below average March levels.

Prices of Australian and New Zealand combing wools advanced steadily to March 1973, reaching a peak of $2.95 a pound, clean basis, nearly 3½ times the year-earlier level. Prices then backed off in April and May but increased again in June to $2.63 a pound. This left prices of both 64's wool and 50's about a tenth below average March levels. (See table 8.)

Supplies Off Sharply

World supplies of raw wool declined sharply over the past year and a half, primarily reflecting the culmination of a series of demand and price

Table 8.—Prices of Australian and New Zealand combing wool, Bradford grade, C.I.F., United Kingdom, clean dry-combed basis

Year and month	70's	64's	60's	58's	56's	50's	48's	46's	Average 8 grades
	U.S. cents per pound								
1972									
January	99.1	92.1	86.3	81.6	75.8	66.5	64.1	63.0	78.6
February	108.7	101.6	95.7	88.6	82.7	73.2	68.5	67.3	85.8
March	110.4	103.3	97.4	91.4	90.3	77.2	73.6	72.4	89.5
April	117.2	110.1	104.2	97.1	90.0	79.3	75.8	73.4	93.4
May	122.0	114.9	107.8	101.9	96.0	81.8	75.8	73.5	96.7
June	129.4	125.9	117.7	109.5	94.4	80.4	75.7	74.6	101.0
July	120.9	117.5	109.8	103.1	93.2	81.0	76.5	75.4	97.2
August	137.8	132.3	125.6	116.7	106.7	93.4	88.9	87.8	111.1
September	157.2	147.3	139.5	130.7	134.0	112.9	109.6	108.5	130.0
October	228.1	197.7	186.8	179.2	160.8	134.7	121.7	119.5	166.1
November	207.9	183.4	173.8	167.4	151.4	120.5	113.0	110.9	153.5
December	214.9	196.8	188.3	180.8	167.0	136.1	121.2	119.1	165.5
1973									
January	267.2	256.5	245.8	235.1	213.8	158.2	134.7	130.4	205.2
February	330.3	319.3	308.3	286.3	242.2	159.7	136.5	132.1	239.3
March	431.8	409.3	398.1	358.9	280.4	185.0	151.4	145.8	295.1
April	366.1	309.8	292.9	270.4	270.4	155.5	144.2	140.8	243.8
May	344.4	327.1	309.9	269.8	218.1	149.2	143.5	142.3	238.0
June	379.8	356.4	344.7	321.4	222.0	163.6	158.9	156.6	262.9
Latest data as percent of a year earlier	293.5	283.1	292.9	293.5	235.2	203.5	209.9	209.9	260.3

Compiled from reports of New Zealand Wool Marketing Corporation.

developments over the past several years. Reduced demand in major consuming nations, occasioned in large part by competition from man-made fibers, resulted in extremely low wool prices from 1968/69 to 1971/72. In response, producers cut their sheep population by an estimated 3 percent worldwide, and shifted resources to alternative agricultural endeavors. Complementing the price disincentives for wool production was adverse weather in several producing countries, notably South Africa. And more recently, sharply rising prices for meat, including mutton and lamb, have acted to moderate gains in wool-producing flocks.

Countries producing fine wools were most severely affected, although carpet wool producers were by no means exempt from the price declines. As world flocks were reduced, wool production declined—now for the fourth consecutive season. Australian producers have cut flocks drastically and apparently are reluctant to expand them for wool production. But with the present high level of wool prices, producers are reevaluating their alternatives, and production is turning around. (See table 9.) Flocks are being increased in the Middle East for the first time since the severe droughts of the early 1960's. And the Soviet Union has taken steps to boost flocks and partially offset effects of the severe 1972 winter. Prospects for 1973/74 point to a marginal gain in world wool production.

Nevertheless, raw wool supplies likely will remain tight over the months ahead. However, world mill use will probably slacken as the year progresses. Thus, decreased mill activity may help balance supply and demand, thus easing competitive pressures at the auction level. New clip wool is moving readily into consumption, so stocks of wool are not increasing.

Table 9.—World consumption and production of raw wool, clean content

Year	Consumption[1]	Production[2]
	Million pounds	*Million pounds*
1963	3,324	3,320
1964	3,203	3,263
1965	3,281	3,291
1966	3,405	3,423
1967	3,249	3,470
1968	3,453	3,571
1969	3,535	3,538
1970	3,462	3,508
1971	3,410	3,417
1972	3,523	3,272

[1] Calendar year. [2] Marketing year.

Compiled from reports of the Commonwealth Secretariat.

Mill Activity Leveling Off

Last year's recovery in global use of raw wool and associated textile production continued in early 1973, but at a reduced pace. Several indicators point to a further leveling off in activity now as limited supplies and sharply higher prices are impacting on the market. The wool content of blends reportedly is declining as use of man-made fibers in traditional wool markets continues to gain. So world mill use of wool in 1973 could decline a little from the 3½ billion pounds consumed last year. (See table 9.)

Table 10.—Mill consumption of wool, selected countries, clean content

Country	Year				1972	1973	Change	
	1969	1970	1971	1972	Jan.-Mar.	Jan.-Mar.	Jan.-Mar. 1973 to Jan.-Mar. 1972	1972 to 1971
	Million pounds	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Percent*	*Percent*
United States[1]	312.8	240.3	191.5	218.6	57.0	47.2	-17.2	+14.2
United Kingdom	384.6	337.3	311.2	336.0	82.0	89.7	+9.4	+8.0
France	267.6	275.4	318.3	322.3	90.8	85.3	-6.1	+1.3
Japan	394.8	402.9	401.5	429.9	101.6	115.3	+13.5	+7.1
Italy	235.6	204.3	195.1	213.4	56.4	57.1	+1.2	+9.4
West Germany	166.1	150.3	162.7	169.5	45.4	46.3	+2.0	+4.2
Belgium	93.1	88.8	66.6	64.6	18.3	16.1	-12.0	-3.0
Australia	76.5	80.9	76.7	79.8	17.6	---	---	+4.0
Netherlands	19.3	17.8	18.5	19.4	5.3	4.6	-13.2	+4.9
Total	1,950.4	1,798.0	1,742.1	1,853.5	474.4	[2] 461.6	[2] +1.1	+6.4

[1] Consumption on woolen and worsted system only.
[2] Excludes Australia.

Compiled from reports of the Commonwealth Secretariat, and the Bureau of the Census.

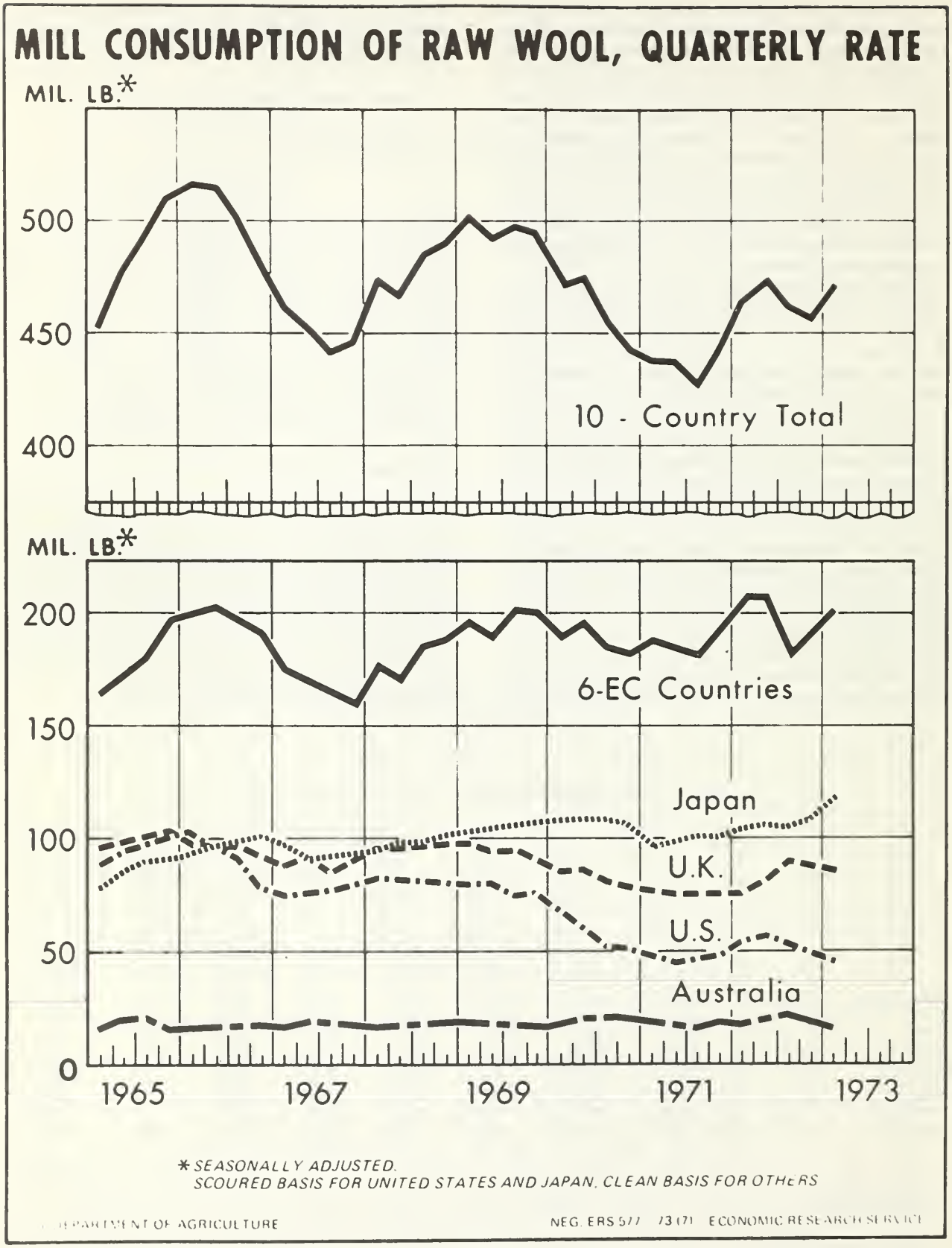
MILL CONSUMPTION OF RAW WOOL, QUARTERLY RATE
MIL. LB.*
500
450
400
10 - Country Total
MIL. LB.*
200
150
100
50
0
6-EC Countries
Japan
U.K.
U.S.
Australia
1965
1967
1969
1971
1973
* SEASONALLY ADJUSTED.
SCOURED BASIS FOR UNITED STATES AND JAPAN, CLEAN BASIS FOR OTHERS
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NEG. ERS 577 73(7) ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE

Figure 6

Increased mill activity during 1972 was most pronounced in major non-communist manufacturing countries. Overall, consumption in these developed countries rose 6 percent. In addition to the United States, recovery was particularly strong in the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Japan, and Italy. (See table 10.) In many developing countries use was up only slightly. India's consumption was lowest of recent years. (See figure 6.)

Production of wool textiles in major manufacturing countries increased moderately to sharply last year. Output of tops, worsted yarn, and woven fabrics all gained close to a tenth, while woolen yarn production increased nearly 4 percent. In addition to the United States, larger top production occurred mainly in the United Kingdom, Italy, and Australia. Italy and Japan led the way in larger yarn output, while Japan was mainly responsible for greater woven fabric production. (See table 22.)

However, production data for the first quarter of 1973 indicate some marked shifts in textile activity in major manufacturing countries. Higher raw wool prices in January-March led to more moderate increases in production of wool tops, worsted yarn, and woven fabric. Only woolen yarn output gained substantially. So with currently reduced supplies and high prices, the outlook is for some decrease in production of wool textiles during the balance of the year. Despite relatively strong demand for textiles, wool textile output may not match the 1972 record.

International Trade Slowing Down

Following increased activity in the wool textile industry, raw wool exports began to recover in 1971. This recovery was dampened in 1972 by tight supplies stemming from lowered world production and the depletion of wool stockpiles. These factors are continuing to stifle export movement in 1973.

Exports of raw wool from the Southern Hemisphere's five chief producing countries were up 5 percent during the early months of the 1972/73 season. (See table 11.) Strong demand from the Northern Hemisphere stimulated shipments. However, exports likely will decline for the balance of the season as the wool commissions in these countries have now essentially disposed of previously large stocks. Also, production is down in Australia and South Africa, and Uruguay has recently embargoed export sales of greasy wool.

A 12-percent increase in Australian exports through February accounted for the overall gain in shipments. In other major producing countries, smaller exports in New Zealand, South Africa, and Uruguay more than offset larger exports from Argentina.

World exports of wool tops gained substantially in 1972, rising about a sixth to a new record. Japan took eight times as much as in the previous year. Exports of yarn also continued their uptrend, and fabric exports reversed the downtrend of the past 3 years. Blanket exports continued down.

Table 11.—Exports of wool from major surplus-producing countries, actual weight[1]

Exporting country	1970/71	1971/72	1972/73
	Million pounds	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*
Australia:			
July-February	953	991	1,107
July-June	1,507	1,658	([2])
New Zealand:			
July-February	384	393	370
July-June	649	672	([2])
South Africa:			
July-March	125	158	130
July-June	169	244	([2])
Argentina:			
October-April	123	118	150
October-September	195	163	([2])
Uruguay:			
October-January	42	40	34
October-September	104	61	([2])

[1] Season beginning July 1 in Australia, New Zealand, and Republic of South Africa, and October 1 in Argentina and Uruguay. [2] Not available.

Compiled from reports of the Commonwealth Secretariat.

THE MOHAIR SITUATION

The 1973 U.S. mohair situation is highlighted by a continuing sharp uptrend in farm prices as a result of currently tight supplies. Last year's record exports depleted stocks, leaving 1973 supplies largely dependent on new production, which trade sources indicate will total between 1972's small clip of about 10½ million pounds, grease basis, and 12½ million. Although Texas producers increased their goat herds early this year in response to improved price prospects, freezing temperatures killed large numbers of newly sheared goats this spring, and mohair production is suffering. Texas production of mohair in 1972 was off sharply, reflecting lagging market prices in past years.

Reduced supplies and high prices are restricting U.S. exports of mohair and 1973 shipments will fall sharply below last year's 19 million pounds, clean content. Exports during January-June 1973 were just a little over half the year-earlier level. (See table 19.) Record exports during 1972 resulted from strong foreign demand, reduced production overseas, and plentiful U.S. stocks. Production of mohair in South

Africa and Turkey declined last year. Combined output of these two countries plus the United States was down about 14 percent.

Domestic mill use of mohair will likely decline during 1973 from last year's 5 million pounds on the woolen system because of limited supplies and higher prices. Woolen system consumption during January-May was down nearly a fifth from a year ago.

Prices received by U.S. producers for mohair increased from 30.1 cents a pound, grease basis, in 1971 to 81.4 cents in 1972. Last year's prices reflected a recovery not only from 1971 but also from the relatively low prices that had prevailed since 1965. Prices over the 10 years up to 1965 had averaged 85 cents a pound.

Strong foreign demand for domestic mohair along with the decline in U.S. production sparked the price uptrend which has continued this summer. Prices of mohair in Texas during July 1973 averaged $2.30 a pound. Fall-clip prices will average somewhat lower, as foreign demand slackens. Still, the annual average farm price of mohair in 1973 will be greatly above last year, and exceed the Government support price of 80.2 cents a pound.

Table 12.—Selected measures of economic activity and wool prices

Item	1972				1973			
	April	May	June	July	April	May	June	July
				Billion dollars				
Personal income payments, annual rate[1]	919.4	924.0	922.9	932.9	1,011.6	1,018.7	1,027.1	---
				Million dollars				
Retail apparel sales, monthly rate[1]	1,834	1,846	1,788	1,801	1,864	---	---	---
				1967=100				
BLS wholesale price index								
All commodities	117.5	118.2	118.8	119.7	130.7	133.5	136.7	---
Textile products and apparel	112.6	113.3	113.6	114.0	120.8	122.3	123.7	---
Wool products	93.0	98.3	99.2	100.0	129.8	127.5	131.3	---
Wool broadwoven fabrics	100.7	100.4	100.4	101.2	113.8	115.2	116.0	---
				Cents per pound				
Wool prices:								
Grease basis:								
Average price received by farmers	29.1	34.5	39.4	39.2	91.3	82.1	80.2	83.8
Wool Act Incentive price	72.0	72.0	72.0	72.0	72.0	72.0	72.0	72.0
Parity price (effective following month)	105.0	105.0	106.0	106.0	116.0	118.0	120.0	120.0
Clean basis, Boston:								
Domestic								
Graded territory shorn wool								
Fine good French combing and staple	94.4	113.0	120.0	127.0	233.8	233.5	257.5	260.0
1/2 blood good French combing and staple	80.4	103.0	110.0	116.2	200.0	194.5	216.2	220.0
3/8 blood good French combing and staple	69.6	94.5	100.0	105.6	152.5	145.5	166.2	166.2
1/4 blood good French combing and staple	69.6	89.5	94.8	100.6	145.0	139.0	160.6	165.0
Low 1/4 blood	68.4	87.5	91.2	92.5	146.2	132.5	151.2	155.0
Graded fleece shorn wool								
1/2 blood good French combing and staple	78.1	97.7	106.2	112.5	193.8	188.5	211.2	215.0
3/8 blood good French combing and staple	69.6	89.5	96.2	102.5	146.2	137.5	160.0	165.0
1/4 blood good French combing and staple	69.6	87.5	94.5	97.5	138.8	134.0	155.6	160.0
Low 1/4 blood	68.4	82.5	88.8	92.5	142.5	126.5	146.2	150.0
Original bag Texas shorn wool								
Fine 12 months good French combing and staple	99.4	126.0	127.5	127.5	240.0	234.5	260.0	260.0
Fine 8 months (1 in. and over)	73.8	108.0	112.5	112.5	212.5	184.4	199.4	200.0
Fine fall (3/4 in. and over)	52.5	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Scoured pulled wool								
64's, 70's, 1-1/2 in. and longer	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
60's, 64's, 1-1/2 in. and longer	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
60's, 1-1/2 in. and longer	87.5	87.5	96.9	102.5	---	---	---	---
58's, 60's, 2 in. and longer	82.5	82.5	96.2	102.5	---	---	---	---
56's, 58's, 2 in. and longer	77.5	77.5	96.9	105.0	---	---	---	---
56's, 2 in. and longer	72.5	72.5	72.5	---	---	---	---	---
50's, 56's, 2 in. and longer	72.5	72.5	72.5	---	---	---	---	---
44's, 50's, 4 in. and longer	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Foreign, excluding duty:								
Australian, 64's, warp and 1/2 warp	109.5	113.3	127.0	123.0	295.5	309.3	324.2	321.5
Australian, 64's, combing	106.8	110.5	109.5	117.1	290.5	304.1	315.6	311.5
Montevideo, 0's, (58's, 60's)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

[1] Seasonally adjusted.

Table 13.—Raw wool: U.S. mill consumption and imports

Item	Unit	1972				1973				Latest data as percent of a year earlier
		Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	
Mill consumption, scoured basis[1]										
Average weekly rate during month[2]										
Apparel wool[3]	1,000 pounds									
60's and finer		1,256	1,386	1,525	1,669	1,036	1,149	1,131	1,068	64
Coarser than 60's	do.	1,345	1,541	1,425	1,472	1,448	1,243	1,056	1,206	82
Total apparel wool	do.	2,601	2,927	2,950	3,141	2,484	2,392	2,187	2,274	72
Carpet wool[4]	do.	1,796	1,527	1,521	1,574	1,268	1,042	998	952	60
Total apparel and carpet	do.	4,397	4,454	4,471	4,715	3,752	3,434	3,185	3,226	68
Monthly aggregates[2]										
Apparel wool[3]	Million pounds									
60's and finer		5.0	6.9	6.1	6.7	4.1	4.6	5.6	4.3	64
Coarser than 60's	do.	5.4	7.7	5.7	5.9	5.8	5.0	5.3	4.8	81
Total apparel wool	do.	10.4	14.6	11.8	12.6	9.9	9.6	10.9	9.1	72
Carpet wool[4]	do.	7.2	7.6	6.1	6.3	5.1	4.2	5.0	3.8	60
Total apparel and carpet	do.	17.6	22.2	17.9	18.9	15.0	13.8	15.9	12.9	68
Accumulated since January 1										
Apparel wool[3]	Million pounds									
By grade										
60's and finer	do.	9.7	16.6	22.7	29.4	10.3	14.9	20.5	24.8	84
Coarser than 60's	do.	10.2	17.9	23.6	29.5	12.3	17.2	22.5	27.3	93
By system										
Woolen	do.	8.0	13.1	17.7	22.0	8.4	12.1	16.4	19.9	90
Worsted	do.	11.9	21.4	28.7	36.9	14.1	20.0	26.6	32.2	87
Total apparel wool	do.	19.9	34.5	46.4	58.9	22.5	32.1	43.0	52.1	88
Carpet wool[4]	do.	14.8	22.4	28.5	34.8	10.9	15.1	20.1	23.9	69
Total apparel and carpet	do.	34.7	56.9	74.9	93.7	33.4	47.2	63.1	76.0	81
Imports for consumption, clean content										
Monthly aggregates										
Dutiable wool	1,000 pounds									
60's and finer		1,235	1,429	3,255	1,274	2,040	2,213	1,280	1,482	116
50's up to 60's	do.	112	115	135	179	165	81	315	303	169
44's up to 50's	do.	70	47	212	105	55	69	113	125	119
40's and coarser	do.	93	280	162	47	291	216	304	192	408
Total dutiable wool	do.	1,511	1,870	3,765	1,605	2,550	2,579	2,012	2,103	131
Duty-free wool										
46's	do.	229	333	486	380	102	65	97	118	31
44's	do.	1,772	1,190	2,422	1,764	685	398	865	553	31
40's and coarser	do.	6,169	3,107	4,227	4,492	3,473	1,871	1,766	3,124	70
Donskoi, Smyrna, etc.	do.	809	725	921	364	407	749	832	503	138
Total duty-free wool	do.	8,979	5,354	8,056	7,001	4,667	3,082	3,561	4,298	61
Total free and dutiable	do.	10,490	7,224	11,821	8,606	7,217	5,661	5,573	6,401	74
Accumulated since January 1										
Dutiable wool	Million pounds									
60's and finer		3.2	4.6	7.8	9.1	5.1	7.3	8.6	10.1	111
50's up to 60's	do.	.2	.3	.4	.6	.2	.3	.6	.9	150
44's up to 50's	do.	.1	.2	.4	.5	.1	.2	.3	.4	80
40's and coarser	do.	.2	.5	.6	.7	.5	.7	1.0	1.2	171
Total dutiable wool	do.	3.7	5.5	9.3	10.9	5.9	8.5	10.5	12.6	116
Duty-free wool										
46's	do.	.3	.7	1.2	1.5	.2	.3	.4	.5	33
44's	do.	2.9	4.1	6.5	8.2	1.3	1.7	2.6	3.1	38
40's and coarser	do.	9.9	13.0	17.2	21.7	6.4	8.2	10.0	13.1	60
Donskoi, Smyrna, etc.	do.	.9	1.6	2.6	2.9	1.1	1.9	2.7	3.2	110
Total duty-free wool	do.	14.0	19.3	27.4	34.4	9.0	12.1	15.7	19.9	58
Total free and dutiable	do.	17.6	24.8	36.7	45.3	14.9	20.6	26.1	32.5	72

[1] On woolen and worsted systems; excludes wool consumed on the cotton and other spinning systems and in the manufacture of processed felt, hat bodies, and other miscellaneous products. [2] Monthly periods are 4 or 5 calendar weeks generally totaling 13 weeks per quarter. [3] Domestic and duty-paid foreign wool. [4] Duty-free foreign wool.

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 14.—Fibers consumed and percentage distribution of wool and other fibers in woolen and worsted mills, United States

Fiber and year	Worsted system		Woolen system				Total fibers consumed	
			For yarns, except carpet and rug		For carpet and rug yarns			
	1,000 pounds	*Percent*	*1,000 pounds*	*Percent*	*1,000 pounds*	*Percent*	*1,000 pounds*	*Percent*
Shorn and pulled wool of the sheep								
1969	139,216	50.9	79,819	28.1	93,758	34.0	312,793	37.5
1970	110,650	53.0	53,002	22.0	76,609	31.8	240,261	34.8
1971	75,791	55.1	40,519	19.5	75,151	29.5	191,461	31.9
1972	92,006	55.6	50,227	22.9	76,368	28.9	218,601	33.7
1972 January-May	36,933	56.2	21,989	23.8	34,799	32.3	93,721	35.2
1973[2] January-May	32,183	47.1	19,944	19.4	23,912	20.5	76,039	26.5
Man-made fibers								
1969	125,749	46.0	109,186	38.4	175,922	63.8	410,857	49.3
1970	92,793	44.4	110,891	46.0	160,400	66.5	364,084	52.7
1971	58,720	42.6	103,468	50.0	176,623	69.3	338,811	56.5
1972	71,087	42.9	103,722	47.3	184,218	69.9	359,027	55.4
1972 January-May	27,570	42.0	42,140	45.7	71,812	66.5	141,522	53.2
1973[2] January-May	35,124	51.4	54,258	52.9	91,969	78.7	181,351	63.0
Other fibers[1]								
1969	8,453	3.1	95,097	33.5	6,138	2.2	109,688	13.2
1970	5,433	2.6	77,078	32.0	4,135	1.7	86,646	12.5
1971	3,217	2.3	63,479	30.5	3,049	1.2	69,745	11.6
1972	2,473	1.5	65,309	29.8	3,082	1.2	70,864	10.9
1972 January-May	1,172	1.8	28,190	30.5	1,323	1.2	30,685	11.6
1973[2] January-May	999	1.5	28,360	27.7	970	.8	30,329	10.5
Total fibers consumed								
1969	273,418	100.0	284,102	100.0	275,818	100.0	833,338	100.0
1970	208,876	100.0	240,971	100.0	241,144	100.0	690,991	100.0
1971	137,728	100.0	207,466	100.0	254,823	100.0	600,017	100.0
1972	165,566	100.0	219,258	100.0	263,668	100.0	648,492	100.0
1972 January-May	65,675	100.0	92,319	100.0	107,934	100.0	265,928	100.0
1973[2] January-May	68,306	100.0	102,562	100.0	116,851	100.0	287,719	100.0

[1] Includes noils, reprocessed and reused wool, mohair, alpaca, vicuna, and other specialty hair fibers as well as cotton, jute, and other vegetable fibers. [2] Preliminary.

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 15.—Average weekly rate of consumption on woolen and worsted systems, scoured basis, for raw wool, United States, unadjusted and adjusted for seasonal variation

Month	1972		1973		1972		1973		1972		1973	
	Unadjusted	Adjusted	Unadjusted	Adjusted	Unadjusted	Adjusted	Unadjusted	Adjusted	Unadjusted	Adjusted	Unadjusted	Adjusted
	1,000 pounds	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*
	Raw wool				Apparel wool				Carpet wool			
January	4,281	4,115	3,693	3,575	2,379	2,324	2,518	2,469	1,902	1,791	1,175	1,106
February	4,397	4,242	3,752	3,614	2,601	2,497	2,484	2,382	1,796	1,745	1,268	1,232
March	4,454	4,332	3,434	3,328	2,927	2,796	2,392	2,280	1,527	1,536	1,042	1,048
April	4,471	4,311	3,185	3,062	2,950	2,765	2,187	2,048	1,521	1,546	998	1,014
May	4,715	4,474	3,226	3,047	3,141	2,897	2,274	2,093	1,574	1,577	952	954
June	4,564	4,346			3,095	2,862			1,469	1,484		
July	3,303	3,870			2,254	2,530			1,049	1,340		
August	4,601	4,401			3,139	3,001			1,462	1,400		
September	4,167	4,265			2,715	2,871			1,452	1,394		
October	4,236	4,194			2,737	2,853			1,499	1,341		
November	3,798	3,946			2,507	2,678			1,291	1,268		
December	3,420	3,823			2,302	2,627			1,118	1,196		
	Man-made fibers				Other fibers				Total fibers			
January	6,886	6,859	7,761	7,730	1,450	1,434	1,243	1,229	12,617	12,408	12,697	12,534
February	6,442	6,429	8,327	8,310	1,502	1,388	1,416	1,309	12,341	12,059	13,495	13,233
March	6,550	6,226	8,387	7,972	1,486	1,365	1,440	1,322	12,490	11,923	13,261	12,622
April	6,829	6,795	8,041	8,001	1,433	1,278	1,395	1,244	12,733	12,384	12,621	12,307
May	7,038	6,907	8,871	8,706	1,428	1,313	1,304	1,199	13,181	12,694	13,401	12,952
June	6,926	6,647			1,358	1,312			12,848	12,305		
July	5,698	6,865			1,079	1,292			10,080	12,027		
August	7,333	6,919			1,398	1,379			13,332	12,699		
September	6,829	6,630			1,247	1,339			12,243	12,234		
October	7,845	7,291			1,400	1,457			13,481	12,942		
November	7,522	7,530			1,288	1,396			12,608	12,872		
December	6,902	7,861			1,302	1,434			11,624	13,118		

Table 16.—Textile fabrics: Deliveries to U.S. military forces, raw fiber content

Fabrics and mixture	1971	1972	1972									1973							
			Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.
	1,000 pounds																		
Wool																			
100 percent wool fabric	1,691	6,292	342	559	411	365	405	1,412	739	653	1,646	700	1,391	307	263	291			
Wool and man-made fiber mixtures																			
50 percent or more wool	0	15	1	0	0	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Less than 50 percent wool	320	1,057	82	50	55	80	0	258	137	122	160	128	46	40	0	0			
Wool and other fiber mixtures	0	16	0	0	0	0	0	16	0	0	0	0	6	0	6	0			
Total	2,011	7,380	425	609	466	445	416	1,686	876	775	1,806	828	1,443	347	269	291			
Cotton																			
100 percent cotton fabric	5,909	14,173	835	1,201	836	1,023	606	3,608	2,045	1,200	2,429	1,630	1,175	1,373	1,388	794			
Cotton and man-made fiber mixtures																			
50 percent or more cotton	985	3,967	343	269	485	347	341	1,006	583	369	562	616	405	521	240	92			
Less than 50 percent cotton	150	251	31	17	0	4	4	17	38	12	23	3	0	4	0	0			
Cotton and other fiber mixtures	0	15	0	0	0	0	0	15	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0			
Total	7,045	18,406	1,209	1,487	1,321	1,374	951	4,646	2,666	1,581	3,014	2,249	1,582	1,898	1,630	886			
Man-made																			
Cellulosic																			
Filament yarn	0	654	87	69	147	38	56	158	32	0	7	0	0	0	0	0			
Staple fiber	1	9	0	0	2	0	0	0	7	0	6	0	0	0	0	0			
Total	1	663	87	69	149	38	56	158	39	0	13	0	0	0	0	0			
Non-cellulosic																			
Filament yarn	398	861	73	43	62	39	56	255	71	103	182	224	341	257	224	160			
Staple fiber	2,114	4,267	271	298	219	374	314	1,062	667	501	668	682	393	418	221	84			
Total	2,512	5,128	344	341	281	413	370	1,317	738	604	850	906	734	675	445	244			
Total man-made																			
Filament yarn	398	1,515	160	112	209	77	112	413	103	103	189	224	341	257	224	160			
Staple fiber	2,115	4,276	271	298	221	374	314	1,062	674	501	674	682	393	418	221	84			
Total	2,513	5,791	431	410	430	451	426	1,475	777	604	863	906	734	675	445	244			
Glass	43	51	5	10	0	0	8	18	5	1	3	1	2	0	0	1			
Total all fibers	11,612	31,628	2,070	2,516	2,217	2,270	1,801	7,827	4,324	2,961	5,686	3,984	3,761	2,920	2,344	1,422			

Based on data from the Department of Defense.

Table 17.—Fabric deliveries to U.S. military forces, in equivalent square yards of fabric

Fiber and fabric	1971	1972	1972									1973							
			Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.
	1,000 square yards																		
Wool																			
Blanketing	1,225	4,217	277	281	268	276	348	1,072	682	489	721	443	1,127	198	109	203			
Flannel	526	328	15	3	5	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Frieze	0	344	-76	90	50	79	38	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Gabardine	338	1,236	81	140	111	38	0	152	51	142	859	134	228	23	0	0			
Kersey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Melton	217	765	127	111	25	2	38	0	39	78	43	0	0	0	0	0			
Pile	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Serge	0	670	9	0	0	0	0	511	87	63	654	303	300	183	307	165			
Tropical	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Other	0	33	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	20	0	0	10	0	9			
Total	2,367	7,593	435	625	461	395	424	1,743	859	772	2,297	880	1,655	414	416	377			
Mixed fiber																			
Cotton and wool	0	77	0	0	0	0	0	77	0	0	0	0	16	0	14	0			
Cotton and cellulosic	-7	4,224	594	481	869	265	389	911	252	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Cotton and noncellulosic	5,142	13,762	577	650	627	1,474	854	3,726	2,848	2,155	2,901	3,104	2,270	2,483	1,660	596			
Cotton and glass	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Cotton and other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Wool and cellulosic	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Wool and noncellulosic	1,765	5,755	466	284	304	447	6	1,330	701	666	877	727	261	227	0	0			
Wool and other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Cotton, wool and cellulosic	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Cotton, wool and non-cellulosic	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Cellulosic and non-cellulosic	18	16	0	0	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Total	6,918	23,834	1,637	1,415	1,816	2,186	1,249	6,044	3,801	2,821	3,778	3,831	2,547	2,710	1,674	596			
Cotton																			
Total	10,194	27,707	1,924	2,543	1,941	2,131	903	5,839	3,418	1,947	4,062	2,737	2,164	2,457	2,464	1,369			
Man-made																			
Cellulosic																			
Total	2	220	7	3	97	0	1	109	0	1	25	1	0	0	1	0			
Non-cellulosic																			
Total	2,901	3,583	259	523	239	283	539	998	68	140	166	247	448	268	281	248			
Glass	96	107	14	20	3	0	13	27	12	3	12	4	2	0	1	1			
Total man-made	2,999	3,910	280	546	339	283	553	1,134	80	144	203	252	450	268	283	249			
Total all fibers	22,478	63,044	4,276	5,129	4,557	4,995	3,129	14,760	8,158	5,684	10,340	7,700	6,816	5,849	4,837	2,591			

Based on data from the Department of Defense.

Table 18.—U.S. production of woolen and worsted woven goods[1]

Fabric	1971	1972	1972 Jan.-Mar.	1972 Apr.-June	1972 July-Sept.	1972 Oct.-Dec.	1973 Jan.-Mar.	Change 1972 to 1971
	1,000 linear yards	*1,000 linear yards*	*1,000 linear yards*	*1,000 linear yards*	*1,000 linear yards*	*1,000 linear yards*	*1,000 linear yards*	*Percent*
Woolen and worsted woven fabrics (except felt)	113,290	101,801	25,284	27,680	22,219	26,618	28,520	-10.1
Apparel fabrics	108,851	95,841	23,801	26,243	20,733	25,064	27,592	-12.0
Government orders	670	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	---
Other than Government orders	108,181	95,841	23,801	26,243	20,733	25,064	27,592	-11.4
Men's and boys' clothing	47,570	33,499	8,985	9,359	7,182	7,973	9,664	-29.6
Less than 9 oz.	5,135	1,650	817	382	358	93	181	-67.9
Worsted	4,948	1,549	793	337	326	93	181	-68.7
Woolen	187	101	24	45	32	---	---	-46.0
9 oz. up to 13 oz.	31,816	20,975	5,613	5,556	4,382	5,424	6,758	-34.1
Worsted	21,263	11,497	3,720	3,449	2,362	1,966	3,759	-45.9
Woolen	10,553	9,478	1,893	2,107	2,020	3,458	2,999	-10.2
13 oz. up to 16 oz.	4,197	4,278	674	1,195	1,091	1,318	1,484	+1.9
Worsted	2,531	3,266	456	944	918	948	1,140	+29.0
Woolen	1,666	1,012	218	251	173	370	344	-39.3
16 oz. up to 20 oz.	5,069	5,370	1,573	1,919	1,050	828	833	+5.9
Worsted	439	630	124	173	172	161	248	+43.5
Woolen	4,630	4,740	1,449	1,746	878	667	585	+2.4
20 oz. up to 26 oz.	1,173	1,044	281	262	245	256	342	-11.0
26 oz. and over	117	182	27	45	56	54	66	+55.6
Women's and children's clothing	60,674	62,342	14,816	16,884	13,551	17,091	17,928	+2.8
Less than 9 oz.	3,152	3,362	923	843	754	842	831	+6.7
Worsted	949	570	194	152	177	47	48	-39.9
Woolen	2,203	2,792	729	691	577	795	783	+26.7
9 oz. up to 13 oz.	19,789	18,617	3,298	4,373	4,130	6,816	8,013	-5.9
Worsted	353	718	142	173	256	147	79	+103.4
Woolen	19,436	17,899	3,156	4,200	3,874	6,669	7,934	-7.9
13 oz. up to 16 oz.	1,772	3,265	671	1,283	813	498	644	+84.3
Worsted	292	571	77	202	199	93	228	+95.6
Woolen	1,480	2,694	594	1,081	614	405	416	+82.0
16 oz. up to 20 oz.	12,554	13,232	3,307	3,949	2,956	3,020	3,233	+5.4
Worsted	1,685	1,873	350	495	435	593	615	+11.2
Woolen	10,869	11,359	2,957	3,454	2,521	2,427	2,618	+4.5
20 oz. and over	23,407	23,866	6,617	6,436	4,898	5,915	5,207	+2.0
Nonapparel fabrics	4,439	5,960	1,483	1,437	1,486	1,554	928	+34.3
Blanketing	3,276	3,950	1,021	975	993	961	472	+20.6
Other	1,163	2,010	462	462	493	593	456	+72.8
				1000 pounds				
Woven felts	7,510	7,698	2,049	1,903	1,782	1,964	2,122	+2.5
Papermakers	5,775	(2)	1,478	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	---
All others	1,735	(2)	571	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	---

[1] Fabrics wholly or chiefly by weight of wool, reused wool, reprocessed wool or other animal fibers. Blanketing in 72 inch width or equivalent, other fabrics in 54 to 60 inch width or equivalent 54 inch width. [2] Not available.

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 19.—U.S. exports: Raw wool and mohair, clean content, and tops of wool and other animal fibers, selected countries

Country	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1972		1973		Jan.-June	
									Jan.-Mar.	Apr.-June	Jan.-Mar.	Apr.-June	1972	1973
	1,000 pounds	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*
								Mohair						
United Kingdom	4,128	6,702	6,429	9,432	4,375	7,517	9,204	15,354	6,167	3,821	2,889	2,258	9,988	5,147
Italy	144	269	781	1,660	1,542	764	410	1,344	607	108	180	112	715	292
West Germany	546	177	189	362	106	162	383	629	226	126	64	---	352	64
France	17	---	---	260	207	330	561	596	122	110	242	64	232	306
Japan	713	1,102	576	1,041	203	602	223	318	123	52	235	144	175	379
Switzerland	132	133	368	475	156	459	760	191	191	---	40	113	191	153
Spain	188	212	262	309	98	126	194	105	53	18	2	---	71	2
Canada	42	54	43	69	93	74	84	98	15	7	5	---	22	5
Mexico	323	268	224	175	70	124	82	90	---	57	---	10	57	10
Netherlands	180	395	375	299	65	101	28	61	54	---	---	---	54	---
Belgium	1,241	612	762	803	201	274	181	43	19	24	---	---	43	---
Other	36	29	89	120	13	38	89	17	---	17	---	3	17	3
Total	7,690	9,953	10,098	15,005	7,129	10,571	12,199	18,846	7,576	4,340	3,657	2,704	11,916	6,362
								Wool						
United Kingdom	---	---	18	28	---	---	1,180	4,664	1,522	1,864	56	71	3,386	127
West Germany	---	---	---	---	---	---	3,911	2,279	1,556	475	25	---	2,031	25
Belgium	---	---	---	---	---	---	39	1,787	1,236	218	---	101	1,454	101
France	---	---	---	2	---	---	528	1,704	599	475	---	---	1,074	---
Switzerland	---	---	---	---	---	---	25	309	52	213	107	221	265	328
Canada	69	36	67	179	86	56	65	192	159	23	---	2	182	2
Netherlands	---	16	---	---	---	---	96	129	---	31	---	1	31	1
Italy	---	---	---	---	---	---	10	54	54	---	2	10	54	12
Spain	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	34	---	---	---	---	---	---
Mexico	---	---	---	---	---	---	24	31	1	---	1	1	1	2
Other	548	34	17	334	110	144	440	41	12	21	68	406	33	474
Total	617	86	102	543	196	200	6,318	11,224	5,191	3,320	259	813	8,511	1,072
								Tops						
Japan	---	---	---	16	15	---	537	11,319	3,689	2,912	1,778	2,611	6,601	4,389
West Germany	---	---	---	---	17	---	2,627	6,339	1,102	1,566	1,206	1,376	2,668	2,582
Canada	253	199	159	170	251	398	321	2,120	397	777	513	638	1,174	1,151
Hong Kong	---	---	---	---	---	---	87	1,566	166	541	692	176	707	868
United Kingdom	---	---	---	---	---	---	294	1,006	271	210	---	45	481	45
France	---	---	37	34	28	---	331	884	540	265	119	---	805	119
Belgium	---	---	---	---	72	---	---	572	36	219	---	71	255	71
Italy	---	13	26	---	---	---	561	318	66	86	71	34	152	105
Greece	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	266	82	54	---	---	136	---
China (Taiwan)	---	---	---	---	---	---	37	260	42	21	247	276	63	523
Netherlands	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	252	40	---	78	173	40	251
Switzerland	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	159	---	82	192	151	82	343
Other	73	152	138	145	95	44	52	210	109	23	126	217	132	343
Total	326	364	360	365	478	442	4,847	25,271	6,540	6,756	5,022	5,768	13,296	10,790

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 20.—Raw wool content of United States imports for consumption of wool manufactures[1]

Year and month	Tops and advanced wool	Yarns	Woven fabrics[2]	Wool blankets[3]	Wearing apparel	
					Knit	Other than knit[4]
	1,000 pounds	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*
1968	6,622	10,850	32,696	874	32,845	8,513
1969	4,496	8,602	29,197	1,012	30,601	10,872
1970	4,406	8,092	23,943	1,004	25,207	12,917
1971	2,752	7,665	11,720	679	21,323	9,895
1972	425	6,312	8,765	707	19,998	11,247
1973[8]						
January	82	428	719	35	961	581
February	7	426	728	29	579	352
March	34	463	1,155	42	573	413
April	15	421	1,214	33	655	698
May	26	506	1,427	16	882	600
June	10	582	1,221	25	1,357	802
January-June						
1968	3,318	5,846	17,074	324	11,647	2,011
1969	2,194	4,715	16,611	367	10,819	2,847
1970	2,688	4,126	14,158	427	8,144	4,116
1971	1,938	4,149	7,519	237	6,419	3,391
1972	235	2,946	4,638	259	5,570	2,523
1973[8]	164	2,244	5,243	155	3,650	2,644

Year and month	Other manufactures[5]	Sub-total	Noils	Wastes[6]	Carpets and rugs	Total
	1,000 pounds	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*
1968	2,549	94,949	27,011	14,669	9,338	145,967
1969	2,235	87,015	22,881	10,633	9,141	129,670
1970	2,563	78,132	20,026	10,619	7,783	116,560
1971	3,039	57,073	15,489	7,987	9,156	89,705
1972	3,272	50,726	21,773	10,589	12,289	95,377
1973[8]						
January	80	2,886	1,888	1,054	1,163	6,991
February	89	2,210	1,518	962	679	5,369
March	129	2,809	1,617	1,084	1,216	6,726
April	174	3,210	1,488	754	1,126	6,578
May	99	3,556	1,202	1,082	1,350	7,190
June	363	4,360	1,198	756	1,228	7,542
January-June						
1968	1,404	41,624	14,139	7,344	4,648	67,755
1969	1,260	38,813	12,757	6,295	4,365	62,230
1970	1,089	34,748	13,240	7,059	3,965	59,012
1971	849	24,502	8,280	5,119	4,837	42,738
1972	1,700	17,871	11,126	5,707	5,922	40,626
1973[8]	571	14,671	7,713	4,936	5,534	32,854

See footnotes end of table 21.

Table 21.—Raw wool content of United States exports of domestic wool manufactures[1]

Year and month	Tops and advanced wool	Yarns	Fabrics woven and knit	Wool blankets	Wearing apparel	
					Knit	Other than knit
	1,000 pounds	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*
1968	461	367	496	207	472	573
1969	538	594	395	188	303	716
1970	804	297	403	164	305	688
1971	5,109	305	469	157	306	649
1972	25,548	563	599	88	434	917
1973[8]						
January	1,806	43	67	6	24	67
February	1,135	16	65	6	27	124
March	2,106	67	71	4	40	101
April	1,133	33	89	4	20	79
May	2,540	42	77	4	47	91
June	2,132	32	125	8	94	89
January-June						
1968	197	198	244	100	238	181
1969	364	383	192	80	104	325
1970	521	70	207	55	118	284
1971	326	148	168	40	152	295
1972	13,382	188	201	51	168	347
1973[8]	10,852	233	494	32	252	551

Year and month	Other manufactures[7]	Felts	Sub-total	Noils and wastes[6]	Carpets and rugs	Total
	1,000 pounds	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*
1968	961	1,349	4,886	3,635	818	9,339
1969	921	548	4,203	3,686	1,004	8,893
1970	769	650	4,080	2,484	860	7,424
1971	798	432	8,225	2,616	1,205	12,046
1972	910	455	29,514	2,753	1,065	33,332
1973[8]						
January	57	79	2,149	178	140	2,467
February	185	12	1,570	104	144	1,818
March	76	19	2,484	386	201	3,071
April	61	32	1,451	256	160	1,867
May	84	52	2,937	329	157	3,423
June	72	41	2,593	275	222	3,090
January-June						
1968	432	824	2,414	1,537	379	4,330
1969	437	257	2,142	2,281	344	4,767
1970	382	394	2,031	1,398	550	3,979
1971	435	253	1,817	1,529	559	3,905
1972	496	200	15,033	1,447	491	16,971
1973[8]	535	235	13,184	1,528	1,024	15,736

[1] Includes manufactures of mohair, alpaca, and other wool-like specialty hair. [2] Includes pile fabric and manufactures, tapestry and upholstery goods, press and billiard cloths. [3] Includes carriage and automobile robes, steamer rugs, etc. [4] Includes laces, lace articles, veils and veilings, nets and nettings, when reported in pounds. [5] Includes knit fabrics in the piece and miscellaneous manufactures not elsewhere specified. [6] Not including rags. [7] Census Bureau's Schedule B classification designated manufactures, n.e.c. [8] Preliminary.

Compiled from reports of the Bureau of the Census.

Table 22.—Production of wool and hair tops, worsted and woolen yarn, and wool woven fabrics, selected countries

Country	Year			1972				1973	Change	
	1970	1971	1972	Jan.-Mar.	Apr.-June	July-Sept.	Oct.-Dec.	Jan.-Mar.	Jan.-Mar. 1973 to Jan.-Mar. 1972	1972 to 1971
	Million pounds	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Percent*	*Percent*
					Tops					
United Kingdom	175.7	145.9	165.6	41.0	42.8	39.7	41.9	43.7	+6.6	+13.5
France	224.7	243.2	245.4	69.9	68.3	48.1	59.1	60.0	-14.2	+.9
Japan	329.4	306.2	324.7	76.9	81.8	82.0	84.2	88.0	+14.4	+6.0
Italy	145.3	119.3	143.3	35.5	35.7	31.5	40.6	41.2	+16.1	+20.1
United States	106.5	72.3	87.6	20.1	24.0	21.6	20.1	19.4	-3.5	+21.2
West Germany	94.4	108.9	120.4	30.6	30.4	30.6	28.7	32.0	+4.6	+10.6
Belgium	54.7	37.5	35.3	9.7	9.3	7.1	9.0	8.6	-11.3	-5.9
Australia	40.8	43.9	50.5	10.4	8.8	10.8	12.6	---	---	+15.0
Uruguay	32.8	31.3	28.4	7.3	7.9	7.1	5.1	---	---	-9.3
Total	1,204.4	1,108.7	1,198.9	301.4	309.0	278.5	301.3	[1] 292.9	[1] +3.2	+8.1
					Worsted yarn					
United Kingdom	202.6	195.1	206.8	51.4	51.8	48.5	55.3	54.9	+6.8	+6.0
Italy	236.1	240.7	290.1	73.6	72.3	62.4	81.9	88.2	+19.8	+20.5
France	224.7	239.6	244.1	66.4	65.9	45.4	66.1	65.0	-2.1	+1.9
West Germany	187.0	199.1	220.7	54.9	56.9	49.4	56.9	57.3	+4.4	+10.9
Japan	291.2	292.8	324.5	75.6	81.1	82.9	84.7	82.2	+8.7	+10.8
Belgium	125.9	138.9	129.2	36.8	33.5	26.5	31.3	30.9	-16.0	-7.0
Netherlands	19.0	20.3	18.5	5.3	4.9	3.7	4.6	4.2	-20.8	-8.9
Australia	19.8	19.4	20.3	4.2	5.3	5.5	5.3	---	---	+4.6
Total	1,306.3	1,345.9	1,454.2	368.2	371.7	324.3	386.1	[2] 382.7	[2] +5.1	+8.1
					Woolen Yarn					
United Kingdom	297.4	300.5	301.8	74.3	78.0	68.6	81.1	84.9	+14.3	+.4
Italy	305.6	302.3	325.6	84.2	81.8	71.0	88.6	95.9	+13.9	+7.7
France	90.6	95.0	97.9	26.2	27.1	18.5	26.0	27.6	+5.3	+3.1
West Germany	107.1	104.5	101.2	26.2	26.5	21.8	26.7	28.7	+9.5	-3.2
Japan	109.1	102.5	108.7	25.4	28.0	27.1	28.4	27.3	+7.5	+6.1
Belgium	53.1	60.0	67.2	17.2	17.9	13.7	18.3	16.5	-4.1	+12.0
Netherlands	28.0	28.0	28.7	7.5	7.7	6.2	7.1	6.6	-12.0	+2.5
Australia	41.2	42.3	42.5	8.6	11.5	12.6	9.9	---	---	+.5
Total	1,032.1	1,035.1	1,073.6	269.6	278.5	239.5	286.1	[2] 287.5	[2] +10.1	+3.7
					Woven fabrics					
	Million square yards	*Million square yards*	*Million square yards*	*Million square yards*	*Million square yards*	*Million square yards*	*Million square yards*	*Million square yards*		
United States	291.9	183.6	167.1	41.6	44.0	37.2	43.4	49.6	+19.2	-9.0
United Kingdom	277.1	245.8	243.3	58.0	59.3	59.6	66.4	67.6	+16.6	-1.0
Japan	509.1	507.0	650.3	155.2	166.0	165.2	164.0	139.0	-10.4	+28.3
France	180.0	203.4	222.3	57.6	59.6	42.6	62.6	62.7	+8.9	+9.3
West Germany	147.3	152.4	163.3	39.6	42.8	37.4	43.3	38.4	-3.0	+7.2
Netherlands	48.1	51.5	50.2	12.8	11.7	10.3	13.2	12.3	-3.9	-2.5
Australia	32.1	26.2	26.6	5.9	6.9	7.1	6.7	---	---	+1.5
Total	1,485.7	1,369.9	1,523.1	370.7	390.4	359.4	399.6	[2] 369.6	[2] +1.3	+11.2
Belgium (Mil. lb.)	32.4	32.6	32.2	8.2	8.2	7.1	8.6	7.7	-6.1	-1.2
Italy (Mil. lb.)	255.5	249.1	273.8	69.0	68.1	61.1	75.4	79.6	+15.4	+9.9

[1] Total excludes Australia, and Uruguay. [2] Total excludes Australia.

Compiled from reports of the Commonwealth Secretariat.

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